

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 DODE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 H-02 MC-02 IGA-01 AID-05

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /065 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA:COL. ASKOGERBOE

APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:WWEISLOGEL

DSAA:GLENN RUDD

SA/SA:MR. EVANS

ARMY:MR. JACKSON

EA/RA:COL. HOBBS

NEA/AFN:SESCUDERO

----- 080509

R 151403Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 193821

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MASS, MO

SUBJECT: REPLY TO MOROCCAN REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED DELIVERIES

REF: CHMUSLO DTG 111405 Z AUG 75

1. DURING HIS JULY MEETING WITH KING HASSAN, DEPSECDEF WAS PRESENTED GOM'S PROPOSED MILITARY ACQUISITION PLAN, WHICH, ALTHOUGH REFINED, IS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME PLAN PRESENTED TO DEPSECDEF BY COL DLIMI IN JANUARY 1975; I.E., ENOUGH US EQUIPMENT TO EQUIP ONE BRIGADE IN 1976 AND THE SECOND BRIGADE IN 1977. FOLLOWING DLIMI'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN JANUARY, ARMY CONDUCTED COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ALL GOM REQUESTS WHICH RESULTED IN IMPROVED LEAD-TIMES FOR SEVERAL MAJOR ITEMS, E.G., APCS (FROM 44 TO 30 MONTHS),  
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AND TOW LAUNCHERS (FROM 1977 TO LATE 1976). ADDITIONALLY,

WE AGREED TO DRAW DOWN CERTAIN ARMY ASSETS AND TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY AS A DEMONSTRATION OF OUR DESIRE TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE GOM.

2. AS THE EQUIPMENT SITUATION HAS NOT CHANGED SINCE THE LAST COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW, WE HAVE FEW ALTERNATIVES IN RESPONDING TO GOM'S LATEST REQUEST. AT LEAST FOR THE PRESENT, WE COULD MEET GOM DESIRES ONLY BY FURTHER DEPLETING ARMY READINESS ASSETS AND BY CHARGING A PRICE LOWER THAN ARMY WOULD REQUIRE FOR PAYBACK (WHICH WOULD BE CONTRARY TO DOD POLICY) OR BY DIVERTING NEW PRODUCTION ITEMS ALREADY DESTINED FOR OTHER FMS RECIPIENTS OR OUR OWN FORCES. WE REGRET THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN LATEST GOM REQUEST AND US CAPABILITY TO DELIVER ARE MAJOR, CONTINUING, AND CANNOT EASILY BE OVERCOME. THE US HAS MADE A MAJOR EFFORT TO BE RESPONSIVE AND THE RESULTING EXPEDITED ACTIONS ALREADY TAKEN TEND TO FORECLOSE MOST POSSIBILITIES FOR FURTHER LEADTIME IMPROVEMENT.

3. RECOGNIZING THIS RESPONSE FALLS SHORT OF CURRENT MOROCCAN DESIRES, EMBASSY SHOULD RESPOND TO KING AND GOM REQUESTS ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. STRESS POSITIVE ASPECTS OF MAJOR EFFORT BY US TO BE RESPONSIVE IN PAST OFFERS FOR EXPEDITED EQUIPMENT DELIVERIES WITHIN THE CONSTRAINTS OF OUR CURRENT SUPPLY SITUATION.

B. EMBASSY MAY RECONFIRM PREVIOUS DECISION TO EXPEDITE 55 APCs, 13 CHAPARRAL AND 6 TOW LAUNCHERS. (WE REGRET GOM REJECTION OF OFFER TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY OF 6 REBUILT M109A-1 HOWITZERS). FYI: THIS OFFER NO LONGER AVAILABLE END FYI

C. TANKS. 28 M-48A3S CAN STILL BE DELIVERED IN MARCH 1976 NOW THAT GOM SIGNED THE LETTER OF OFFER (REFTEL); IN ADDITION, THE 20-DAY CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION PERIOD HAS BEEN CONCLUDED AND 54 M-48A5 TANKS CAN NOW BE OFFERED FOR DELIVERY IN MID-1977.

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D. DEPARTMENT CURRENTLY ADDRESSING POSSIBLE SALE TO GOM OF 12 COBRAS (TOW CONFIGURED).

E. THE TRAINING SURVEY TEAM IS COMPLETING ITS REPORT WHICH SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO ISA/DSAA LATER THIS MONTH. UPON RECEIPT OF REPORT, MUSLO SHOULD REVIEW THE TRAINING LEAD-TIMES PROJECTED IN RELATION TO

EQUIPMENT DELIVERIES AND ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE PROBLEM AREAS. WE HOPE, GOM WOULD RECOGNIZE TRAINING/SUPPORT PROBLEMS WHICH COULD ALSO RELIEVE SOME OF PRESSURE FOR EXPEDITED DELIVERIES.

F. FINALLY, ARMY HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE 119 106MM RE-COILLESS RIFLES FROM NEW PRODUCTION FOR SALE TO MOROCCO, WITH DELIVERY BEGINNING IN EARLY 1976 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THAT OF GUN-CONFIGURED JEEPS. THIS SHOULD GIVE MOROCCO AN EARLY AND SIGNIFICANT ANTI-TANK CAPABILITY AND HELP BRIDGE THE PERIOD BEFORE OTHER ANTI-ARMOR WEAPONS ARE DELIVERED. KISSINGER

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